

A NEW SPECIES OF *MYSTACAGENIA* FROM PANAMA
(HYMENOPTERA, POMPILIDAE)

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The species of *Mystacagenia* appear to be very rare insects; only four specimens, all females, have been reported to this date (Evans, 1973, 1977). The major distinguishing feature of the genus is the prominent brush of pale setae on the exterior face of the mandibles. The known species have strongly banded wings and a remarkably complex color pattern which differs considerably among the species. I can suggest no function for these elaborate patterns unless they are disruptive and render the insects inconspicuous in the patchy light of forests.

The discovery of a species in Panama represents a considerable range extension for the genus, the three previously known species being known from Brazil and Peru. The new species appears closest to *M. bellula* Evans but differs in the shape of the clypeus and in many details of coloration.

***Mystacagenia elegantula*, new species**

Holotype.—♀, Barro Colorado Island, Canal Zone, Panamá, 13 Sept. 1978 (L. S. Kimsey) [Univ. Calif. Davis].

Description.—Length 5.0 mm; forewing 4.1 mm. Head largely pale orange-brown, except whitish on posterior orbits, clypeus, and face below antennal sockets; head with brown spots at middle inner orbits, sides of clypeus, and sides of occiput; mouthparts, including mandibular brushes, whitish; thorax orange-brown, blotched with fuscous on sides of scutellum, all of metanotum, and anterior third of propodeum, also along pleural sutures and on venter; abdomen fuscous except basal segment dark orange-brown, remaining segments suffused with dark ferruginous along posterior margins and apical segment mostly of this color. First two antennal segments orange-brown, weakly infuscated laterally; remainder of antenna fuscous laterally, whitish mesally, except apical third orange-brown, extreme tip fuscous. Legs variegated; front and hind coxae whitish, middle coxae partially infuscated; front femora light brown, streaked with darker brown; middle and hind femora fuscous but streaked with white apically on upper surface; tibiae moderately infuscated, front and middle tibiae with three white spots on outer surface, hind tibiae with two such spots; tarsi largely

brownish, basal segments darker than the remainder. Wings with a faint yellowish tinge, hindwing unbanded, forewing with a narrow dark band over the basal and transverse median veins, well separated from a broader band below the stigma, which is dark brown. Clypeus with several strong, white setae; otherwise there are only a few short, scattered, pale setae on the front, temples, pronotum, and coxae; pubescence of body silvery, not especially dense; integument of thoracic dorsum dull, elsewhere somewhat shining.

Clypeus 3.2 times as wide as its median height, its apical margin broadly convex medially; front rather narrow, middle interocular distance 0.57 times head width, 0.92 times eye height; inner orbits strongly convergent above. Vertex slightly gibbous at ocellar triangle; postocellar line: ocellocular line = 5:7. First four antennal segments in a ratio of 15:7:29:21, segment three very slightly longer than distance between eyes at top. Pronotum broadly angulate behind; postnotum a narrow transverse band; legs slender, tibiae and tarsi with only minute, scattered spines. Wing venation as figured for *M. variegata* by Evans, 1974, except third submarginal cell much shorter than second, 1.7 times as wide as high, fourth abscissa of radius much longer than third abscissa.

This species is known only from the type female.

Literature Cited

- Evans, H. E. 1973. Studies on neotropical Pompilidae (Hymenoptera). IX. The genera of Auplopodini. *Psyche*, 80:212–226.
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